

Routes to tour in Germany

The German Fairy Tale Route

German roads will get you there — even if nostalgia is your destination. On your next visit why not call to mind those halcyon childhood days when your mother or father told you fairy tales, maybe German ones? The surroundings in which our great fairy tale writers lived or the scenes in which the tales themselves were set will make their meaning even clearer and show you that many are based on a fairly realistic background.

On a tour from Hanau, near Frankfurt, where the Brothers Grimm were born, to Bremen, where the Town Band (consisting of a donkey, a dog, a cat and a cockerel) played such dreadful music that it put even robbers to flight, you will enjoy the varying kinds of countryside. And do stop over at Bodenwerder. That was where Baron Münchhausen told his breathtaking lies.

Visit Germany and let the Fairy Tale Route be your guide.



The German Tribune

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Genscher makes lone bid to keep detente alive

- 1 Bremen
- 2 Bodenwerder, home of Baron Münchhausen
- 3 Hanau, birthplace of the Brothers Grimm
- 4 Alsfeld

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has had talks with the Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, in Vienna.

The aim of the meeting was to try and keep East-West detente alive. It was a border.

Genscher spoke to the Bundestag before leaving for his talks. He reiterated the Federal Republic's loyalty to Nato.

But he also included some friendly remarks addressed to the Soviet Union.

He gave his Vienna visit the appearance of being a lone venture in *Ostpolitik*.

This was not a case of a restless ally sailing at the bit. But something needed to be done to break the East-West pattern of events.

Was there anything to be gained? Or

was there anything to be lost?

France's role in world affairs now inevi-

tably marks the Soviet Union's increasing

influence.

Moscow has felt itself being increas-

ingly driven into a corner since the Ko-

ngsberg

accident.

Now the Christian Democrats have

been returned to power in Bonn they

have been quickly obliged to realise

what a difficult ally the United States

can be.

In the unstable state world affairs are

now in, the burdens on the alliance tend

to be imposed from the other side of the

Atlantic: from America.

The strict and, to put it mildly, cago-

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

Page 3

Page 5

Page 8

Page 12

Continued on page 2

When Chancellor Kohl was asked whether German foreign policy would continue as before or change, he took the edge out of the question.

Every new government, he said, had to work with the situation that existed when it took office. Changes could only be brought about in the long term.

He thus accepted a principle that has been a hallmark of Bonn's foreign policy in particular ever since the Federal Republic of Germany was founded.

There were no fundamental changes in 1969 either, which was the previous time power had changed hands in Bonn.

There were furious disputes over *Ostpolitik* in the years that followed, but they tended to hide from view the fact that in principle Bonn remained firmly tied to the West.

The Federal Republic did not drift off in the direction of the East Bloc and could hardly have done so. Its treaty ties with the West and countless *faits accomplis* made any such idea impossible. As thought had learnt this lesson the government of Helmut Kohl and Hans-Dietrich Genscher has likewise attuned itself to a policy of accepting *faits accomplis* over the past year.

The disputes that marked the present Bonn coalition's early days seem so long past that they might never have taken place.

Take the clash over whether the new coalition should continue its predecessor's *Ostpolitik*. It no longer has a leg to stand on now. Franz Josef Strauss has toured Eastern Europe and been associated with a billion-deutschmark loan to East Berlin.

There is no longer any mention, at least aloud, of the need for a change in relations with the Third World in general and Africa in particular.

This could be explained in terms of the pragmatic outlook of conservatives, who are not given to ideological fixations. It is, indeed, a popular interpretation.

But it is more to the point to realise that there are constant factors in foreign affairs that allow no government to undertake abrupt changes except of the price of grave disadvantages.

Every Bonn government is embedded in a web of historically accrued relationships that grow steadily more intricately woven.

This web is suspended from two mainstays. One is the Federal Republic's security policy significance, the other its economic policy significance.

In security policy it is hard to envisage any change at all in the foreseeable future. In economic policy the possibility cannot be entirely ruled out.

The Federal Republic today, with a track record spanning 34 years, seems as self-evident as it is worth while recalling the security policy prerequisites.

It is enough to study the origins of the German Treaty signed in 1952 and ratified in 1955 to realise that the Federal Republic of Germany owes its existence to a foreign policy decision of principle.

It can then be seen how the Federal Republic joined the West and gradually found its feet, throwing away its crutches and freeing itself from the arms of midwives.

Not entirely, of course. Allied rights still apply, as in the context of the treaty governing troops stationed in the Federal Republic or of the Four-Power Berlin Agreement.

But the feature that weighs most heavily is the proviso, accepted on 5 May 1955, the day on which the country gained full sovereignty, that sovereignty was linked to joining Nato.

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Bonn policies built round two main pillars

Christ und Welt
Rheinischer Merkur

Pulling out of Nato, as suggested by Oskar Lafontaine, the SPD mayor of Saarbrücken, in the context of the missile debate, would deprive the Federal Republic of its very foundation.

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Continued from page 1

contric economic policy pursued by the United States prompted even the pro-Soviet friendly Bonn President, Karl Carstens, to gently raise the issue in his speech to Congress.

Herr Carstens' remarks were greeted with stony silence. Herr Genscher's brief was to clearly state the interests of the European Community too — in addition to his constant warnings against a trade war with the East.

George F. Kennan, the US expert on the East, is afraid Moscow might now view the United States as an arch-enemy and behave in an even more unpredictable manner.

Anyone can imagine what our reactions would be if Soviet missiles had shot down an airliner with 60 Germans on board.

But the sale of tee-shirts in Washington with the slogan Stop the Soviets testifies to a fundamental current that could well strike fear into us on the border between East and West.

Herr Genscher's offer of cooperation with Moscow to a hitherto unspecified extent, his "message of good will to the Soviet Union," arises from the need to keep the door open at least a chink.

Even if it is too late to achieve results at the Geneva missile talks, the beginning of missile modernisation must not be allowed to mark the end of all East-West ties.

At present there is very little evidence of the pragmatic approach to *Ostpolitik*.

In a word, it may fairly be said that there is not a spot on the globe where the interests of the Federal Republic are not involved in one way or another.

Two recent projects make this national interface particularly acute. One is the succession of uncertainties, the other the CSCE negotiations.

The Unetad gatherings are taken on their own, have been held, but as a whole and by the outlook to which they are document the sense of respect felt by the countries that attend.

The Federal Republic is a participant and, to take but one example, in the organisation of the international monetary system is involved. Bonn chose not to withdraw regardless of how highly the debate was.

He did this by saying no, the deal was not to ahead. But it was a move to be greeted with mixed feelings because Herr Kohl made questionable sacrifices in the CSCE and Helsinki negotiations.

A long-term assessment can clearly not be made yet.

It was not expected that his visit to Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia would prompt major steps toward a settlement of conflicts in the Middle East.

The Arab countries are justifiably

alarmed over military cooperation is not limited to necessary consideration of Israel. Arms exports to Saudi Arabia could set a precedent for the Third World.

Arms are the export. Third World

countries need least. Besides, Bonn

would find itself in trouble arguing

which country should be sold which

weapons. The outcome could be total confusion.

All political parties in Bonn, including the CDU/CSU, have fundamental misgivings, but there are also individual critical aspects.

Is the Gepard tank still a defensive

WORLD AFFAIRS

Kohl keeps his balance in Middle East

It might even have worsened because Bonn and Riyadh have now agreed in writing to include defence issues in their cooperation.

In the final analysis it matters little which weapon systems are supplied to Saudi Arabia, whether for instance they are the Gepard (Cheetah) anti-aircraft tank or the Roland anti-aircraft missile.

A more far-reaching issue arises. It is whether Herr Kohl might not, by taking this step, have opened floodgates and encouraged German arms exports to a degree with which no-one can be happy.

We can ignore whether the Chancellor was politically in a position to do anything else. The Bonn government would say that he wasn't.

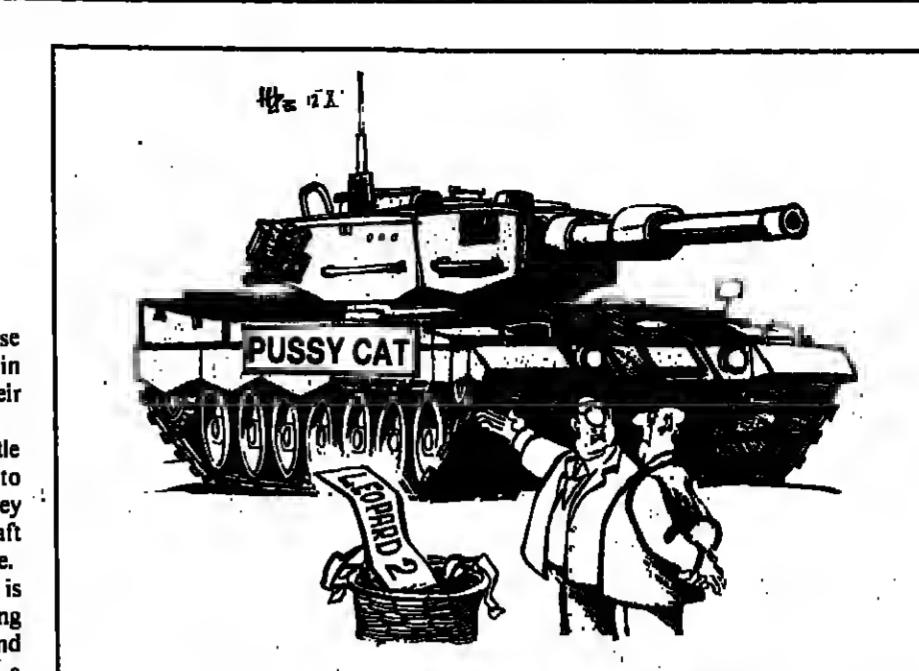
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Arms are the export. Third World countries need least. Besides, Bonn would find itself in trouble arguing which country should be sold which weapons. The outcome could be total confusion.

The Federal Republic's own Leopard tanks are designed for forward defence, so Bonn could only really refuse to sell them to Riyadh if the Saudis were alleged to have other intentions.

Arms exports are risky inasmuch as there can be no guarantees that systems will remain in the country to which they are exported. They could be re-exported.

And if Bonn is to export to Saudi Arabia an advanced tank like the Leopard it logically must provide the Saudi



Now, do you think we can sell it to them?

(Cartoon: Heinz-Joachim Melder)

weapon when used to back up an attack and to perform anti-aircraft duties in occupied territory?

The distinction between attacking and defensive weapons is dubious in any case and clearly apparent in Saudi Arabia's case.

But despite all misgivings Herr Kohl must be allowed not to have made his move impetuously or carelessly. He will have had serious reasons.

One may have been that the Saudis felt the Schmidt government had given them a definite assurance on the Leopard tank.

The Chancellor sensibly decided not to make political capital out of this point. That surely is a laudable aspect of what, at all, was a useful tour.

Heinz-Joachim Melder

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 October 1983)

Warplanes: new X in the oil equation

Supplies of oil from the Middle East are under threat again as a result of the delivery of five French Super-Etendard fighters plus Exocet missiles to Iraq.

Iraq, at war with Iran, has threatened to block the Strait of Hormuz. All tankers must pass through the strait to get out of the Persian Gulf.

In three years of war against Iraq, the

Iranians have

retried the initiative.

Iran and Iraq are both Opec members,

and both are absolutely dependent on their oil revenue and oil exports.

All the Opec countries would be sure to offer to supply consumers promptly, reliably and in good time. If need be, they might even trade on unofficial markets.

The Iranians, who are still well informed on the oil trade, are well aware of this and will realise that a blockade of the Persian Gulf would be doomed to prove ineffective.

So they will be wondering very carefully whether they ought to risk provoking intervention by the US Navy, which could well guard the Strait of Hormuz on behalf of America's client state Saudi Arabia.

What prompts France to run such a risk is another matter. The French are owed 40 billion francs by Iraq, which is a great deal of money.

They are afraid they may never see any of it if Iraq loses the Gulf War. So they have decided to redress the military balance between Iraq and Iran.

In doing so they are likely to have contributed toward prolonging a war that has dragged on for more than three years.

The Strait of Hormuz remains a weak link in the chain and the West ought to take precautionary action.

Bernd Hansen

(Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung)

The price of crude oil is constantly falling. Economies are sluggish. There is still a high potential for economising on oil in the industrialised West.

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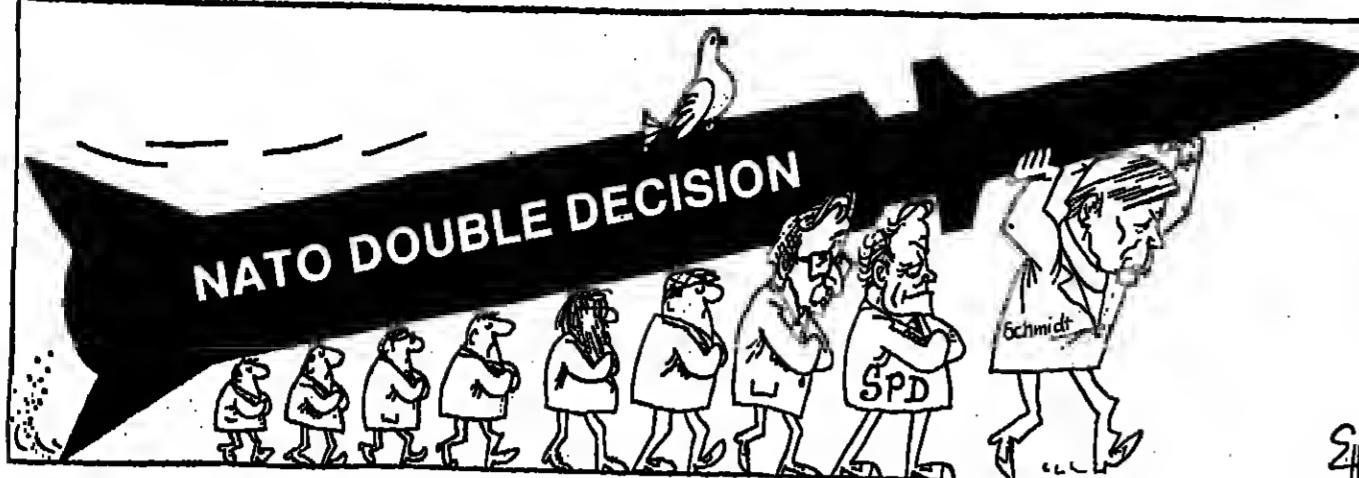
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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Social Democrats' retreat on missiles cracks inter-party security consensus

The Social Democrats are likely to reject the deployment of missiles when they meet at a special national conference next month.

State and district meetings throughout the country have been voting against deployment. This means it is likely to become official Opposition policy.

This retreat from the old policy forced when they were in government is regrettable. It also creates problems.

For a start, it destroys the consensus that has existed between the two main parties for many years. This consensus was needed to strengthen Germany's position within Nato and towards the Soviet Union in a bid to get success at the Geneva arms talks.

Then there is the question of Germany's membership of Nato. The SPD has raised this at the wrong time. It wants to show that there can be no security partnership with Helmut Kohl as Chancellor.

It will have some difficulty doing this. Kohl's position is almost identical with that of his predecessor, Helmut Schmidt. Neither is or was a "missile chanceller."

The fact is the SPD has reneged on Schmidt. Why? It is not entirely clear. Alfonso Pawelezyk, SPD Senator in Hamburg, speaks of an emotional backlash in a party that had to make too many compromises while it was in government.

Professor Karl Kaiser, a party member and foreign affairs expert, says the SPD overlooks the continued necessity of dealing with the Soviet Union on an ideological plane.

The only thing the party was coerced with now was cooperation with the USSR.

Party leader Willy Brandt has come up with another approach. His hopes rest on achieving a majority with the help of the Greens.

The difficulty in pinpointing the reasons for the party's change of stance indicates that there is a leadership problem that existed even before it was thrown out of government in Bonn.

Since the summer of 1981, Helmut Schmidt's only way of making his party toe the line on the Nato missiles decision was to threaten to resign.

Now, Brandt and Egon Bahr say that the party agreed to the decision only out of consideration for Schmidt. This is a somewhat weird argument.

It is doubtful whether Schmidt would have been able to bring Moscow to the Geneva bargaining table in the summer of 1980 without the Nato decision.

If a party considers the decision

wrong it can only do this for the reasons Henry Kissinger gave in an interview with the weekly *Der Spiegel*: Nato should have started to deploy the new weapons and then offered negotiations. As things stand, Nato has set itself a deadline by which to succeed.

The Germans brought this deadline on themselves because they wanted deployment only if talks failed. This had been hailed as a new element in arms control policies.

Talks would not have been possible without pressure. And now it was im-

possible to get rid of this deadline. This would reduce the likelihood of success in Geneva still further and deal a severe blow to arms control. The Alliance would be strained to breaking point and the Soviets' fearmongering would stop the deployment without any concession on their part, says Kissinger.

The SPD leadership cannot ignore these arguments. Yet it gives the impression that it supports all the wrong reasons against the missiles decision.

Anybody who acts as if America had gone back on its promise by its non-rati-

Protests against deployment likely to achieve little

thing to make headway in East-West relations.

But it has now become obvious that the traditional political instruments can be useful only if Germany's basic security needs are uncontested.

Those days are long gone. The controversy over the deployment is only a symptom of a deep-rooted difference of views: the views of those for whom security rests with America's nuclear shield and those for whom this very shield is the root of insecurity.

This discussion at home reduces the predictability of German policy abroad.

Until the end of the 1980s, the effectiveness of Germany's security policy will depend on whether it can once more be backed by a solid majority.

This means that the government must deal with the fundamental criticism of the missile opponents.

But neither the Kohl-Genscher government nor the Social-Liberal coalition it replaced has done this.

Merely pointing to the threat from the Soviet SS-20 missiles and the Geneva talks cannot sway the sceptics and opponents.

There is no alternative to the deterrence principle in our nuclear age. But this does not make the strategy free of problems.

Even those who consider deterrence must need not necessarily approve of a weapons system like the Pershing II — a missile that is fast, accurate and therefore unnecessarily provocative.

The same goes for the arsenal of tactical nuclear weapons (6,000 in Western Europe, 4,000 in West Germany).

Effects of the political fallout from deployment can be cushioned by maximising the *Ostpolitik* angle. An example of this is the meeting between Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Moscow's Andrei Grigoryev in Vienna.

This can make it easier for the government to show that it has done every-

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PERSPECTIVE

Germany, USA: reconciling change and continuity

ification of Salt II ignored Americans for a possible failure. Geneva talks are unfinished.

Anybody who believes that the unilateral waiver of new missiles would increase the Soviet nuclear threat evidently ignores what is happening in West Germany.

The demand for an inclusive French and British nuclear summit is misleading. They can negotiate on one-for-one basis or in the area of German-American harmony.

Helmut Schmidt had trouble with both Carter and Ronald Reagan. How has Helmut Kohl managed to do so well?

Relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States changed or improved since the election of the Social and Free Democratic coalition in Bonn?

The question ought first to be examined independently of personalities. The above list shows, getting on well is not a matter of Christian Democrat and Republican or Social Democrat and Democrat. Party-political affiliations don't seem to matter much. The ministry of personal attributes and characteristics does.

And if one strives for a new alliance the Alliance one must strengthen this Alliance further.

Even if there is an intention to Geneva, major questions would be what would be the shape of a balance of power? What would be the function of the British and the French?

And what would be the position of a non-nuclear country like West Germany? It is unlikely to come to terms having nuclear weapons stationed on its territory without a say about them.

If the Geneva talks fail and the alliance crumbles, these issues will be at the center of the domestic scene in Germany.

The SPD carries a heavy responsibility.

Dieter Schäfer
Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 October

In a nutshell, the decline of America can be accounted for by saying that the United States won't listen to reason and insists on living beyond its means.

President Johnson was not in a position to pay for both Vietnam and his Great Society at the same time. President Reagan can't simultaneously plan to plough \$1,000bn into armaments and cut taxation.

Yet the Americans persist in imagining they can get away with such sins against the facts of economic life, with consequences that we have all seen happen before.

Above all else it is the staggering US government debt and the high interest rates it has triggered that have made America a major factor for uncertainty in the eyes of its allies.

Germany, with its hard currency has been particularly hard-hit by an undervalued dollar and expansionary US monetary policy in the past.

The German economy is currently hardhit by an overvalued dollar and finding it difficult to stage an economic recovery.

This is partly because higher domestic interest rates are impeding necessary investment, while indispensable imports, such as oil, have to be paid for in undervalued dollars.

Fundamental changes in US society are proving no less disadvantageous for the Federal Republic of Germany.

America's Atlantic generation has passed away and the center of power has shifted from the East coast to the West and South.

One result has been that President Carter came to power from Georgia and President Reagan from California, and both men and their entourages aimed to govern America entirely differently.

There were going to be sweeping changes from the way the US government

Christ und Welt Rheinischer Merkur

ment had been run by the Washington Establishment.

As a result, only a handful of people who know Europe or Germany are still at the White House, the State Department and the Pentagon.

US foreign policy has grown more ideologically-tinged, albeit for domestic reasons. Mr Reagan's populist neo-conservatism is, moreover, nationalist and, at a point, isolationist in outlook.

They have, however, changed it in content, and that quite substantially.

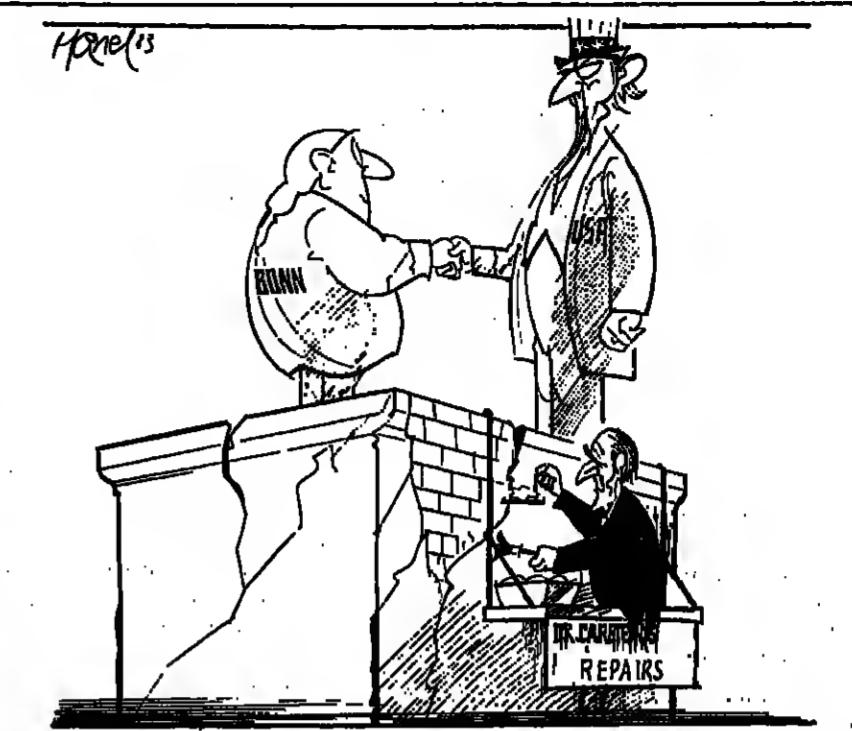
Where the Federal Republic is concerned, all that needs mentioning here is that its economic potential has considerably boosted its self-assurance.

Yet the younger generation, or part of it, is critical of America, just as unemployment and stagnation influence relations with the United States, and not, at others, for the better.

A far more dangerous trend in connection with German-American cooperation, much more so than political or military problems, has been and continues to be the decline of the United States as the world's leading economic power.

That is a trend which has confronted Helmut Kohl as Bonn Chancellor just as it confronted Helmut Schmidt, his predecessor.

He instinctively is more mindful of



(Cartoon: Honegger/Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)
can first had to drag the Germans in the direction of detente.

Then, in the 1970s, although a start had undeniably been made in the late 1960s by the Grand Coalition of Kiesinger and Brandt in Bonn, America and Germany were more or less level-pegging in aiming at peace partnership with the Russians.

This was the state of affairs until after Helsinki. Then the Russians occupied Afghanistan, punished dissidents like Andrei Sakharov and began their SS-20 build-up.

The pendulum began to swing the other way. Long before Mr Reagan moved to the White House Jimmy Carter, a Democrat, boycotted the Moscow Olympics and warned the Russians to keep their hands off the Gulf.

America was deeply humiliated by Iran over the US embassy hostilities in Tehran. Gigantic America was incapable of dealing with dwarfs like Khomeini, Gaddafi and Castro.

The United States had Central America in uproar on its own back door.

This combination ensured President Reagan of the support of a broad majority of the US public and a hesitant and much smaller Congressional majority for his militant approach.

He also made a point of being tougher with his allies, which include us.

The economy, Germany's 1920s Foreign Minister Walter Rathenau wisely foresaw decades ago, is our destiny.

The destiny of transatlantic ties and German-American cooperation is now largely dependent on dealing successfully with a serious international economic crisis.

That too is a task Helmut Kohl has inherited from his predecessor. So there has been no dramatic change in German-American relations since we have had another Chancellor (but the same Foreign Minister) in Bonn.

The climate has improved, however, or arguably, to put it a little more sceptically, public relations work on both sides.

Rhetoric on both sides of the Atlantic is certainly more cordial than it has been for long, and the tricentennial anniversary of German immigration to North America came as a blessing and a public relations godsend at just the right time.

Eisenhower had tried a similar approach at Geneva in 1955. Johnson, Nixon, Ford and Carter were to follow suit.

The continuity of joint problems and tasks is certainly a compelling reason for the two countries to stay together.

Thilo Koch

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt,
7 October 1983)

■ THE WORKFORCE

Germany's biggest union pushes for 35-hour week

Allgemeine Zeitung

Germany's largest trade union, the metalworkers' IG Metall, is campaigning for the working week to be reduced from 40 hours to 35 without pay cuts.

Because of IG Metall's size (2.5m members) and influence, the campaign is likely to have widespread reverberations if it is successful.

The campaign will be lead by Hans Mayr. He was elected at the union's annual congress in Munich to succeed Eugen Loderer as chief. Loderer is retiring after 11 years in the post.

However, Herr Mayr is likely to step down in three years because he then will be 65, and under the union's unwritten rules, that is retirement age for the post.

Waiting in the wings will then be the young (46) and ambitious Franz Steinköhler, head of the Stuttgart region, who was elected deputy leader at Munich. Steinköhler is regarded as more militant than either Mayr or Loderer.

This year IG Metall finds itself in confrontation with the metal industries. Business has generally improved, but the union says the industry is making "an all-out attack on our achievements."

So the first task of the new leadership is to rally the membership.

Crises in such sectors as electrical engineering and steel has over the years caused growing unemployment and membership has dropped more than 100,000 since 1979.

There were 370,000 metalworkers

unemployed at the end of September says the Federal labour office.

If the union manages to get grassroots support for the 35-hour week without pay cuts, the ripples could have a wide-ranging social upset.

Eugen Loderer called the introduction of the 40-hour work week the "achievement of the century."

National executive member Hans Janssen, in charge of collective bargaining, said the 35-hour week dispute would be the most serious of the post-war era.

The campaign is meant to combat unemployment but the employers fear increased costs will lead to more bankruptcies and layoffs.

Some of the more than 900 motions put forward in Munich dealt with peace and disarmament.

The Nuremberg region has called on members of protest against deployment in Germany of new US missiles by making use of their right to resistance under Article 20 of the Constitution. This would mean organising a general strike.

In addition, the national executive has been urged to take all legal steps to clarify the constitutionality of deploying mass destruction weapons in this country.

These motions are being channelled towards a resolution against the deployment part of the two-track Nato decision.

But the national executive rejects the idea of a strike for political reasons. Instead, it wants to use the traditional Anti-War Day more emphatically than before to drive home to the public that the union's aims are directed at peace and detente.

*Robert Luchs
(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 12 October 1983)*

Companies that allow their workers to buy shares in them do better than the national average, says a survey by the Institute for the German Economy (IWE) and the society for inner-company cooperation (GIZ).

The survey says that companies benefit because their liquidity is improved and workers benefit because they have the chance to build up capital beyond their pay.

On average, turnover per head is better than the national average, and so is profit ratio.

The study was carried out over four years and included 145 companies that have had a scheme for at least seven years. The total payroll involved was 1.1m.

The study is a follow-up on a 1977 survey of workers' participation in capital.

Based on the 1977 data, the study assumes that some 1,000 companies now practise it.

The most common form is that of silent participation and loans to the company (about one-third each). This is followed by staff shares (21.5 per cent).

The authors, Hans-Günter Guckel (IWE) and Hans J. Schneider (GIZ), say the charge that these schemes are put into operation in boom times and that

Worker capital participation 'helps firms'

only a few successful companies can afford them is wrong.

About half the companies reviewed started schemes during recession. About a quarter began when their own capital investment was below the national average.

IWE director Gerhard Fels, quotes one businessman as saying: "I don't let my workers participate because I'm doing well. I'm doing well because I let them participate."

Companies that run schemes have, on average, more invested as a proportion of the balance sheet total than the national average: 31.5 per cent against 20.9.

When schemes are subsidised by the company, the rate of liquidity improves noticeably. In the long run, liquidity depends on how many workers are prepared to leave their money invested beyond the repayment date. Four out of five do.

The 770 participation companies surveyed in 1977 accounted for workers' capital worth DM2.3bn. The 145 com-



The big three at IG Metall... from left, the retiring chairman, Eugen Loderer, the new deputy, Franz Steinköhler, and the new chairman, Hans Mayr, at the conference in Munich.

Government is accused of seeking confrontation

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

The government was seeking confrontation, not consensus, the retiring head of the metalworkers' union, Eugen Loderer, says.

He told the annual congress of IG Metall, which had 2.5m members, that the willingness of people to make sacrifices had turned into a one-sided imposition of sacrifices on the workers.

Bonn had done nothing to rescue the troubled steel and ship-building industries.

Loderer warned against attempts to do away with social entitlements such as workers' co-determination.

He said: "Those who launch such a drive will trigger a head-on collision. We respect political majorities but will not tolerate political minorities' continuous disregard for our interests."

Companies this year had workers' participation in one form or another of DM5.5bn, averaging DM10,000 per person.

Workers are becoming more willing to join in. In the 1960s, only 27 per cent of eligible workers did. But in the 1970s, more than 60 per cent did.

The report says trade union allegations that this kind of capital participation is directed against them is wrong. It did not weaken their position within the companies.

However, it does concede that workers in small companies running schemes were less inclined to strike than other workers.

Works councils were strengthened, say the authors, because they were given additional rights. Local union representatives, on the other hand, often had difficulty getting their objections across to the workforce.

The study concludes that participation was most efficient in small and medium sized firms, regardless whether the firm subsidised schemes.

The often-voiced view that profit-related participation schemes were the most efficient had not stood up to scrutiny.

The authors say that no one model was equally suitable for all companies.

*Hans-Willy Bein
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 October 1983)*

TRADE

China, Germany sign deal to protect investment

Chinese officials told Count Lambsdorff that they did not want China to become dependent on Japan. But German goods, especially industrial equipment, were much more expensive than Japanese.

Count Lambsdorff stressed that joint ventures were the best way of ensuring a continuous flow of technology.

The Chinese have been pushing these ventures since 1979 without much success.

They involve foreign partners being offered equities of up to 50 per cent.

The Chinese company provides cheap labour and favourable production conditions. The foreign partner is expected to supply know-how. Profits are shared.

Some 50 joint ventures have been established in China so far. Only two involve German companies: the Darmstadt-based Wella (a cosmetics factory in Tianjin) and the Mülburg-based Busch KG (vacuum pumps in Shanghai).

Foreign partners usually pin their hopes on the Chinese market — at least in the medium term. The Chinese want to acquire technology that will enable them to export to South-East Asia and earn foreign exchange.

But German businessmen consider the conditions offered by other Asian countries such as Sri Lanka, South Korea and the Philippines, more favourable and less risky.

The investment protection agreement, Count Lambsdorff signed in Peking is intended to reduce the risk factor, which is mostly political.

The main provisions are: German companies are free to transfer profits and withdraw capital (with reciprocity for Chinese ventures in Germany). Compensation in case of expropriation is to be adequate and swift.

The provision on the transfer of capital and/or profits out of China means that the Peking government has to provide foreign exchange.

Arbitration in case of disputes will rest with an international panel.

The only other country that has an investment protection agreement with



Count Lambsdorff (left) with the Chinese leader Huo Quoteng (extreme right) in Peking. (Photo: dpa)

China is Sweden. But that is regarded as inadequate.

But the Sino-German agreement will probably be as a model for agreements with France, Japan and the USA.

Count Lambsdorff said that an agreement was being worked on.

The ratio of manufactured products in China's exports to Germany has risen. The minister stressed that the diversification of China's exports provided a chance for the future.

Helmut Opletal

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 8 October 1983)

Plant, chemicals lead Iranian import boom

Iran has again become one of Germany's major trading partners. Germany is buying more crude from Iran and exporting more plant and equipment and chemicals.

Trade dropped off sharply when the Shah was deposed. The West became wary of the regime under the mullahs.

In the first seven months this year, Germany sold more than DM4bn worth of goods to Iran compared to DM1.7bn the year before, an increase of almost 150 per cent.

One reason is a new attitude by the mullahs. Their latest five-year plan gives priority to agriculture and heavy industry.

A German businessman recently in Tehran says Iran desperately needs to catch up. There were many potential customers at the German machinery industry exhibits at the Tehran international fair.

In the first seven months this year, plant and equipment sales to Iran rose 65 per cent to DM680m, the highest comparable figure since the revolution.

Iran has, over the same period, bought DM610m worth of chemicals, more than the DM600m for the whole of 1982.

Iran exports to Germany in the first seven months amounted to DM874m, an increase of 76 per cent.

Main priorities of the five-year plan are agriculture, infrastructure, heavy industry and export growth.

This has led to stepped up exports to Germany, primarily crude.

In the first eight months this year, Germany bought close to 1.5 million tons of Iranian crude, more than twice the quantity of the corresponding period last year.

Iran's exports to Germany amounted to DM874m in the first seven months of 1983, up 76 per cent.

Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 October 1983

Deficit with the Saudis heads towards surplus

than other Opec countries. It does not have to reduce its rate of economic development due to fluctuating oil revenues.

Estimates put Saudi Arabia's current reserves and foreign investments at a minimum of \$150bn.

It is the avowed aim of the Riyadh government to go ahead with the development of its capital and consumer goods industries. Infrastructure projects have had priority up to now.

This shift of priorities is likely to open a new market for German companies. Until now construction and electronics industries have mainly benefited.

Riyadh wants to step up its cooperation with Germany through joint ventures.

The Saudi-German Development and Investment Company, founded last year, develops project ideas that are put to German and Saudi Arabian private industries.

German exports fell ten per cent in the first half of this year to DM3.9bn, but this was not more than expected.

Saudi Arabia lost its number one position as Germany's oil supplier in

the first half of 1983. Crude exports fell 66 per cent to 3.3 million tons, this reflects a strong change in the pattern of trade between the two nations, something that has been overshadowed by the debate over whether the F-14 Tomcat should be sold to Saudi Arabia and by Chancellor Kohl's visit to Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia was West Germany's second most important non-European buyer of German goods after the USA.

In 1982, Germany exported DM8.5bn worth of goods to Saudi Arabia, 25 per cent of its trade with Arab countries.

Saudi Arabia's exports to Germany, mainly crude, amounted to DM1.5bn.

So Germany had a deficit. This year it will not just go into balance. It will probably turn into a German surplus.

German exports fell ten per cent in the first half of this year to DM3.9bn, but this was not more than expected.

Saudi Arabia is in a better position

Heinz Stilwe
(Die Welt, 8 October 1983)

■ BUSINESS

The man who became top goal scorer for the Bochum Club

DIE WELT
WORLDWIDE TÄGELICHE ZEITUNG FÜR DÖRFER UND STÄDTE

When Berthold Beitz went to join Krupp in 1953, he thought the Bochum Club, the firm's colloquial name, was a soccer club.

Beitz, who has just turned 70, is the director of the supervisory board of Fried. Krupp GmbH, Essen and chairman of the Krupp Foundation, set up to run the organisation after Krupp died.

There is a whiff of vanity when he says he was never an employee of Krupp. But there is no self aggrandisement when he says Krupp has been his life's work.

The former confidant and personal pensioner of the late Alfred Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach is today the empire's ruler and executor of Krupp's will.

At Krupp's graveside in 1967 he characterised his "friend and hero," saying: "His life was ruled by the dictates of duty and service to his company."

So is Beitz's. He is a fascinating blend of intuition and businesslike matter-of-factness.

"You cannot learn to be a manager. You've either got it or you haven't," he says about himself, not the least abashed

ed by praise of his organisational ability, boldness and imagination.

But there is more to his personality. On the eve of a friend's birthday, he wrote to him: "One should not overestimate such a day. The number of years means nothing. You're as old or as young as your state of health and your attitudes. Age is relative."

Beitz is one of those people for whom the zenith of life and work is always ahead and not behind.

His father was a cavalry NCO from Demmin on the periphery of Pomerania. Beitz graduated from high school in Greifswald in 1934 and went into banking. In 1939, he went to Royal Dutch Shell AG, rising to become the business manager of the Karpaten-Öl AG in Boryslaw in 1941.

Neither he nor his wife talks much about those days. But he was awarded Poland's highest civilian decoration for foreigners in addition to Israel's Yud Vaschem Medal.

Herr and Frau Beitz saved the lives of many Jews and Poles.

Greifswald University awarded him an honorary doctorate for his services to developing world trade.

After the war, his initiative and boldness helped him develop links with East Bloc nations which benefited both Krupp and all German business.

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clined. He might have accepted had it not been for loyalty to Krupp. Beitz is a man whose talents would make him successful in any field. In 1972, the chairman of German Olympic Committee, Willi Daume, appointed Beitz chief organiser for the yachting and rowing events of the Munich Olympic Games. These events were in Kiel. He later became a member of both the national and international Olympic committees. Beitz has always seized opportunities. In 1946, the British made him vice-president of the insurance authority in Hamburg. From there he went to Iduna Insurance, culminating in four years from place 16 in place three in the business.

His prime job when he went to Krupp was to fight restrictions imposed by the Allies after the war. In 1968 they were removed.

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The Lord of the Rings... Berthold Beitz (in right hand) and Olympic logo.

Cartoon: Klaus Böckeler

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The signs are that personal computer

users are about to take off in Germany. Manufacturers and dealers would like to see them skyrocket this Christmas and confidently expect to see them sell for years.

Computer clubs are springing up like mushrooms in towns all over the country, with fans sharing notes and swapping programmes they have either made up themselves.

Giving classes and other educational

clubs have long cottoned on to the growing interest in computers and courses.

Cologne Stadtsparkasse, a municipal savings bank, marked its 150th anniversary by setting up a computer school for young people as a non-profit organisation.

It has so far taught 35,000 students and apprentices how computers work and can be used. Manufacturers are as imaginative in getting kids interested.

Atari, for instance, runs 14-day computer holiday courses in a Sauerland hotel complex for less than DM500. The aim is to redirect the kids' interest in video games toward home personal computers.

That, of course, merely indicates that German marketing and manufacturing subsidiaries of US manufacturers have changed their marketing strategy.

Apple Computers have learnt from research in Germany that Germans, unlike the average American, feel an initial sense of alarm when computers are mentioned.

Manufacturers long neglected to try and rid people of this fear of contact.

Their advertising was packed with computer terms such as RAMs and bytes, as those who showed interest seemed to feel that to learn Basic, the programming language, you had to have plenty of time and at least university entrance qualifications.

But the aim is now to open up a mass market and whet the computer appetite of an enormous number of potential customers.

A Munich hypermarket took whole-page newspaper ads to sell children's pens, calculators, paints sets and the like as the school year began.

It also included home computers, as

supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms.

These figures compiled over the years are invaluable both for planning journeys to distant countries and for scientific research.

Basic facts and figures for every country in the world form a preface to the tables. The emphasis is on the country's natural statistics, on climate, population, trade and transport.

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■ BUSINESS

The man who became top goal scorer for the Bochum Club

DIE WELT
WORLDWIDE NEWSPAPER OF THE 20TH CENTURY

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Beitz's most important achievement



The Lord of the Rings... Berthold Beitz with (in right hand) and Olympic logo.

Cartoon: Klaus Böhl

was to have improved Krupp's image and to take off in Germany. It was quickly through Irvin's purchase of a major stake worth DM 1bn.

It was typical of him that he, Ludwig Poullain, the former Westdeutsche Landesbank, was then out of favour, taking him to the firing line.

While Krupp's programmes they have either right or made up themselves.

Training classes and other educational facilities have long cottoned on to growing interest in computers and courses.

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At least in theory, thousands of office jobs could be transferred from central

TECHNOLOGY

Have we bitten off more bytes than we can chew?

Computers a threat to millions of jobs? In theory at least, thousands of office jobs could be done at home.

In the home, computer departments in German stores, children are encouraged to try their hand at the keyboard. They are not just tolerated, they make themselves at home, owing that sales assistants are not going to disturb them or throw them out.

Yet woe betide them if they were to play around with the controls of high equipment in the same store without clear intention of buying!

There are good reasons why children are given a free hand. They are keen and unbiased in the view they take of new technology, and they make other customers stop and take a look.

Staff suddenly find themselves being questioned about home computers by sensible customers. They are often caught unawares and certainly untrained for promotional patter.

Next year they envisaged sales totaling 400,000, with the market skyrocketing in 1985, when sales are expected to reach two million.

Atari's Jürgen Feld has no doubts about the market potential. There are 28 million TV sets in the Federal Republic, he says. "That's our market."

As a rule the customer needs only to buy a computer keyboard costing as little as DM 500, or even less. His TV set will double as a monitor screen.

Families are increasingly coming under fire as market potential. US manufacturers have coined the term "family computer" and say their sets are a mine of information, education and entertainment for the entire family.

Triumph-Adler, a Volkswagen subsidiary and one of the few German manufacturers with sights set on the home computer market, list a wide range of uses.

There is management of the family budget and automatic operation of the central heating, the shutters or the burglar alarm.

There are leisure uses such as cataloguing for collectors or astrological calculations, and that is by no means all.

The computer could lend invaluable assistance in education, just as it can in commercial uses such as text compilation and editing, costing and accountancy, and technical and scientific applications.

Given the reality as it exists already, there is no need to impose much of a brake on the imagination.

Club programmers are already using portable home computers to work out placing in seconds in sports competitions.

Action-packed video games have been joined among the deluge of software by programmes ranging from address lists to computer graphics and word processing.

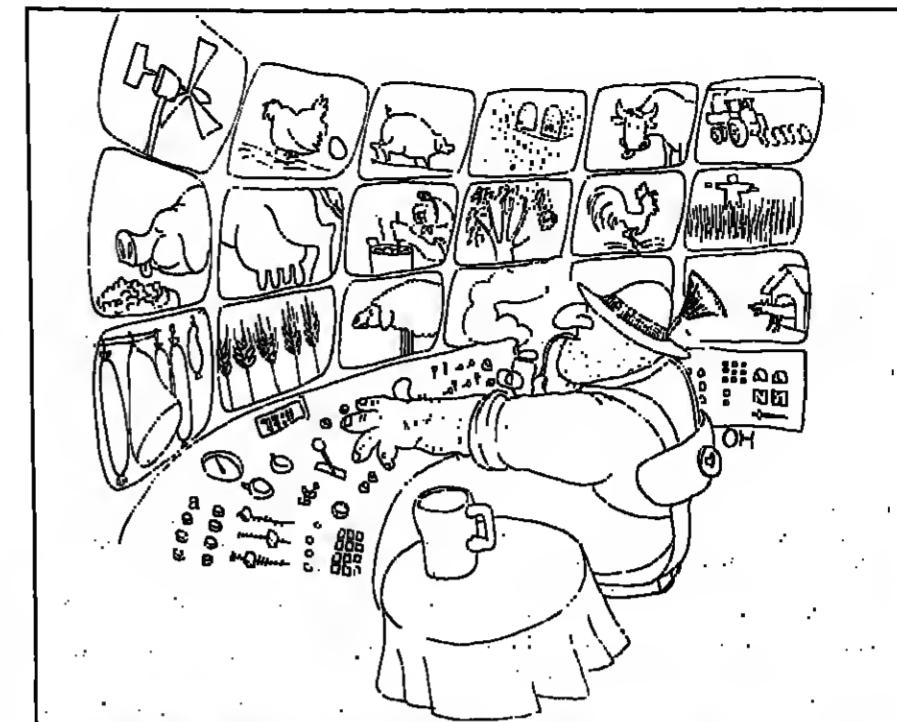
Maybe the computer will be as firmly established in the home within a few years as washing machines or TV sets are now.

Is the home likely to be transformed into a workplace, with data-processing in action from behind one's own four walls?

That is anything but a utopian prospect. Telephone lines can be opened up to company head offices or data banks. Information and order data can be requested, processed and returned in next to no time.

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At least in theory, thousands of office jobs could be transferred from central



(Cartoon: Huber)

lised office blocks and typing pools to the private atmosphere of the home.

Whether that would be at all desirable is another matter. Personal contact among workmates, already almost limited to the coffee break, would then be virtually ended.

The trade unions see home computers as a threat to hundreds of thousands of jobs. Home computers are still bought mainly by fans and do-it-yourselfers, but far-reaching effects are feared.

IG Metall,

the engineering workers' union, both sees jobs threatened and expects "far-reaching repercussions on personality development" to arise.

It is far from unlikely that home computers will put people out of work. Small firms, says Max Peter Gottlob, head of Texas Instruments' microelectronic training centre, could well use them to computerise operations.

A few years ago that would have been out of the question for smaller companies.

But now technology is steadily gaining in armchair comfort and home computer prices are plummeting, the threshold for small firms is growing increasingly tempting and accessible.

A garage-owner or carpenter could easily come to the conclusion that a computer could replace or make redundant a storeman or office worker.

Computers are almost useless without skilled operators and software geared to the needs of individual, custom-built programmes.

Software specialists such as René W. Schärling of Systor AG have plans to revolutionise this side of the business too.

"We can no longer afford to devise systems that relegate people to the role of stupid unskilled workers and mere takers of orders from the computer," he says.

Software might, he adds, become more tolerant in future toward errors made by the operator and provide more useful advice on how to deal with exceptional situations.

But he advises against being too optimistic. "It will be a long time before perceptible successes will be apparent."

Home computer prices have certainly plummeted. Manufacturers have enormous stocks to clear and supply in terms of output has outstripped demand.

It remains to be seen which retail outlet proves most satisfactory in providing advice and back-up. August Rüdiger

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt)

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Meteorological stations all over the world



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■ LITERATURE

The world of Nobel Prize winner William Golding

An English-language writer seemed likely to be awarded the Nobel Prize for literature. Nadine Gordimer was favored. So was Doris Lessing.

Some felt that the Stockholm academics would finally show common sense and choose one of the foremost European writers in recent decades, Graham Greene.

But Greene was overlooked, yet again. This damages the Nobel Prize jury's reputation rather than Greene's.

Yet the jury does not need to be ashamed of their 1983 choice, William Golding, best known as the author of *Lord of the Flies*.

He is a major English writer of the older generation, if not a famous one. His novels, which are not always easy reading, have been available in German for over 20 years.

They are held in high regard by a fairly limited number of connoisseurs.

Golding was born in 1911 in a small town in Cornwall. Some Germans imagine Cornwall to be an eerie and gloomy place because Wagner's *Tristan* is set there. German directors have tended for some time to give the opera a dark and gloomy air.

This view of Cornwall is not entirely inaccurate. It is a part of England where people with second sight are said to live.

It is an area where tendencies toward the occult coincide with religious mania, the mystic and the mysterious, as Golding's readers can well imagine.

His family was nothing special, and he became a teacher, like his father. He taught at a boys' school in Salisbury from 1939 to 1961.

But during the war he was in the Royal Navy, and active service is said to have left an indelible mark on him.

It is reputed to have ingrained the pessimism in a man who believes neither in progress nor in the possibility of changing the world.

Evil is within man himself. It cannot be eliminated, merely recognised for what it is.

Gloomy and bizarre though Golding's stage set may be, he does hold out some hope in not ruling out the possibility of the individual coming to know himself.

He did not start writing until late in life and can hardly be said to have had much initial success. He was unable to find a publisher for his first three novels.

But he then made a name for himself virtually overnight and was famous for a while as the author of a novel unforgettable for the harsh and uncompromising manner in which it is narrated.

Lord of the Flies, published in English in 1954 and in German translation in 1956, tells the tale of a group of schoolboys left to their own devices on an uninhabited Pacific island.

Whether they want to or not, they are forced to form a community or society. The result is frightening. In such special and difficult circumstances seemingly primeval instincts come to the fore and civilised people soon prove to be barbarians.

Golding's subsequent novels were not as successful as his first, which was filmed by Peter Brook. They are also parables intended to demonstrate basic human situations.

Frankfurter Allgemeine

They are primitive situations usually depicted in terms of archaic, mythical configurations.

The relationship between good and evil, meaning and madness, humanity and inhumanity is one Golding persistently views with scepticism and a heavy heart.

Yet his leanings toward the transcendental are too evident ever to lend support to suspicions that he might be a nihilist.

The *Inheritors*, 1955, published in German as *Die Erben* in 1964, is a strange and extremely frightening novel in which the last Neanderthals are unremittingly wiped out by homo sapiens.

Pincher Martin, 1956, entitled in German *Der Felsen des zweiten Todes*, tells the tale of a shipwrecked man who reviews his life in the course of his death agony. In both novels, the forces of evil triumph.

The Spire, 1964, published in German as *Der Turm der Kathedrale* in 1966, is characteristic of Golding's view

of the world and of his strange yet impressive imagination.

The building of an extraordinary cathedral (Salisbury innately springs to mind) symbolises the senselessness and presumptuousness of human activity. The cathedral is built in marshy ground.

His *Darkness Visible*, 1979, published in German as *Das Feuer der Finsternis* in 1980, was less successful, being accused of wordiness and pseudo-profoundity.

All his books are full of macabre visions. Obsessions always play a leading role. Golding readily depicts all manner of perversions.

There is no shortage of sadists and exhibitionists or of criminals or people who turn out to be infamous ludi- diuels.

So is his world in the final analysis an inhuman one? Literary critics do not agree on this point, and it is not an easy one on which to arrive at a decision.

As the vague and mysterious often prevails in Golding's work, interpreters are in a position to cite all manner of examples in support of the most varied tenets and interpretations.

Golding consistently avoids commit-

ting himself, for which he is blamed, and his work contains a number of parabolic motifs.

A writer who whose scenes

to resist the irrational and

and indeed gives it preference

he expected to go in for a ter

tristic preoccupation with

ity issues.

Yet there can be no doubt that

parables relate to our own ex

lent inspired by it.

There are no arguments about

quality of his prose, although

readers can hardly judge, having

in a variety of translations.

His virtuoso command of

enables him to tell his tales with

degree of descriptive power.

He is hard to pigeonhole in

literary history. His writing has

been said to testify to Joyce

fluency.

That may be true, but which

novelist in recent decades has

two major TV networks, ZDF,

Banu oder Die Töchter der Uto

(Anu Banu or the Daughters of

Edna Politi.

No, Golding cannot be

any particular school of writing.

"*Anu Banu*" are the initial words

but in the final analysis remains

the film, six women who came to

conservative and a traditional

line from Poland and Russia in the

emergency ward of a Berlin hospital.

Johann Feindt's *Der Versuch zu*

leben (An Attempt to Live) observes

them and their patients at close range

yet unobtrusively. The "easel" which he

follows even after their leaving the hospital

(camera Karl Siebig) are never put on exhibit.

Detachment is the only way the doctor

manages to keep himself from flinching.

Der Versuch zu leben, produced by

the German Film and TV Academy in

Berlin, is a microcosm of metropolitan

anonymity: an attempt to live.

So were some of the other films.

Many were no more than attempts.

Some were failures.

The Greek entry *Engel* (Angel) by

George Kotsopoulos, is based on a

true crime committed in Athens's homo

sexual milieus. It is the story of a

young man who escapes unsavoury fa

history.

Adorno nonetheless failed to

achieve popularity and was always

opposed to jazz. He rejected as

the "practical" approach to

art.

Peter Bürger, of Bremen, raised

the problem of the extent to which

his aesthetic theory could be ap-

plied to the post-moderns.

Their aim was to eliminate the

distinction between art and life.

Adorno diagnosed at an early

stage of modernity, but he re-

jected the dialectics of art and life.

Most of the other films were rather

in an interface of assimilation and

detachment aimed at finding truth.

Hans Robert Jauss, of the Konstanz

University, criticised as "platonic"

such concept of truth. Instead, he

with Habermas, he advocated a new

concept of truth.

Jauss was the most prominent

not only for other people but also

for himself, and nature is an eye-opener.

Adorno was a forerunner of Habermas

and his linguistic philosophy.

Michael Theunissen, of Berlin, showed

that this was not merely a naive

hope. In his lecture on Negativity in

Adorno he said Adorno did not want to

yield to immediacy.

The negative nature of the existing

world, which was totally wrong, was

read by Adorno as the mirror-image of

an entirely different world.

At present this other world was only

apparent in works of art.

Albrecht Wellmer, of Konstanz, like-

Continued on page 10

Continued on page 11

Continued on page 12

Continued on page 13

Continued on page 14

Continued on page 15

Continued on page 16

Continued on page 17

Continued on page 18

Continued on page 19

Continued on page 20

Continued on page 21

Continued on page 22

Continued on page 23

Continued on page 24

Continued on page 25

Continued on page 26

Continued on page 27

Continued on page 28

Continued on page 29

Continued on page 30

Continued on page 31

Continued on page 32

Continued on page 33

Continued on page 34

Continued on page 35

Continued on page 36

Continued on page 37

Continued on page 38

Continued on page 39

Continued on page 40

Continued on page 41

Continued on page 42

Continued on page 43

■ RESEARCH

Photovoltaics: power without fuel and waste products

We have here an entirely new physical phenomenon of the utmost scientific importance," Werner von Siemens told the Prussian Academy of Science in 1872.

It was, he said, a matter of the direct conversion of light into electric power. He was referring to the photovoltaic properties of selenium.

Siemens, the founder of German electrical engineering, had sufficient imagination to be fascinated by the discovery.

The conversion of light straight into electric power, without fuel and without waste products, is still, 111 years later, a concept that calls for imagination.

Max Planck, Albert Einstein and other scientists succeeded in solving the mystery of light and energy shortly after the turn of the century.

They realised that light must be seen as a current of elementary energy particles capable of transferring their energy straight to the electrons, the elementary particles of electric power.

Yet there seems to be no shaking at the foundations of the prevailing view that electric power will continue for all time to be generated solely by mechanical means, via turbines and generators.

Research scientists and industrial executives nonetheless can now state a reasonable case for the possibility of an alternative.

Microelectronics has taught them how fast semiconductor technology can outstrip even the most optimistic forecasts. And photovoltaics, the technique of light conversion, is likewise a semiconductor technology.

A miniature photovoltaic power station has just started work in Munich home. Like the computer, it could be the first of millions of such devices.

It electronically generates 220-volt alternating current from light, feeding it into the grid. Its trailblazing output is about as much as the average household consumes in a year.

There are two salient features to this new source of electric power. First, it runs absolutely noiselessly. It contains no more moving parts.

Second, it takes up very little space. Fifty square metres of module form part of the gabled glass roof, in some cases taking the place of the plate glass.

Otherwise the unit consists of a few wires and the new electronic inverter that converts direct current from the roof into alternating current for the grid.

The inverter is no larger than an attache case, and the entire installation is a textbook example of how closely linked-in practice microelectronics and photovoltaics are.

It is not just that the solar cells in the roof of the building, supplying about 5,000 kilowatt hours of power per annum, are made of the same material as microchips.

A Siemens semiconductor component known as a SiPMOS transistor converts solar electric power almost without loss of power into the form accepted by consumers such as the refrigerator, the vacuum cleaner and the electric drill.

The SiPMOS element is capable of handling more than one million times per second current of up to 40 kilowatts.

US companies are likewise already

The new conversion device, developed at the Fraunhofer Institute of Solar Energy Systems in Freiburg, works like this:

Its electronics measures half a million times per second the varying voltage of electric power from the grid and immediately collects the same tension from the roof, ensuring that solar alternating current runs at the same frequency as grid current.

Electric power from the roof thus automatically keeps in tune with variations in grid voltage, which is a major safety precaution on which power utilities insist.

The Munich pilot project is still at the experimental stage. The Fraunhofer Institute is hoping it will provide long-term experience prior to widespread use.

It is not yet economic by any stretch of the imagination. The solar cells in the roof, and they alone, cost over DM100,000.

Yet a company and research scientists were soon found to set the project up in next to no time.

The initial investment, however, was made by Jochen Richter, a Munich TV film executive, who spent a pile of nerves and cash on making his dream of living in a house of glass in a natural environment come true.

His house was designed by Munich architects Thomas Herzog and Bernhard Schilling, whose solar architecture was awarded the Mies van der Rohe Prize.

The Fruhnhofer Institute put to good use the opportunity of pioneering photovoltaic power. It was backed by the European Community, by AEG, Siemens and Varta and by Munich's municipal power utility.

The experimental power station was switched on by Bavarian Economic Affairs Minister Anton Jaumann.

A medium-sized German electrical engineering company has already said it is prepared to industrially manufacture the crucial new device, the inverter.

Patents have been applied for in the leading industrialised countries.

Mass production could cut the cost of photovoltaic power dramatically. Japanese companies already have experience in respect of one use.

They hold a commanding position in an entire world market for photovoltaics: its use in consumer electronics.

Clocks, calculators and the like are readily run on solar power. A single Japanese manufacturer, Sanyo, makes over one and a half million tiny solar cells a month.

So Japanese industry will be assured of advanced know-how for mass production when larger cells' turn for use in generating power comes in a few years' time.

The Japanese Ministry of Industry and Trade would like to equip virtually every house in the country with photovoltaics in the long term.

The aim is to reduce Japan's dependence on imported oil.

US companies are likewise already



Photovoltaic house in Munich ... new angle on solar power.

MEDICINE

Close identification with patients 'can be disastrous for doctors'

This psychological analysis excluded doctors who were drinkers, drug users or who had other psychological disorders.

Doctors with such problems were not a negligible minority. The German edition of *Medical Tribune* had reported increasing cirrhosis of the liver, drug addiction and suicide among British doctors.

"Many doctors worked so long into the night so often that their family life suffered.

Working in a joint practice with other doctors in no way changed this, Dr Gabbard told the Congress.

The feeling of being needed was as indispensable to the doctor as applause to the actor.

A typical childhood characteristic of doctors was that the only way of earning recognition from their parents was an ever greater sense of responsibility, in industriousness and self-denial.

Doctors usually found it difficult to take time off and relax. Some devoted themselves to their children as a pure duty at fixed times.

Taking time off evidently frightened many. A doctor who never stopped and felt guilty about a few minutes of

leisure was the most telling example of an exaggerated Protestant work ethic.

But this meant cutting down on work and hence income, Dr Gabbard said.

A more pleasant way of life had its price. Dr Gabbard urged that the old image of the tireless helper and super-human master over life and death be changed.

He said that thorough work was compatible with a healthy sense of duty and a normal private life. *Rosemarie Stein* (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 30 September 1983)

Back aches on the increase

There are indications that backaches have become more common.

The director of Essen University Orthopaedic Clinic, Professor Karl Schlegel, told the German Society for Orthopaedics and Traumatology that this was primarily because there is more desk work, more fat people and less exercise now.

It could also be due to the fact that people have become more sensitive to pain.

The doctor's self-destructive way of life could only end once he learned to differentiate between selfishness and a healthy guarding of his own interests. Dr Gabbard stressed that this was not selfish. It was sensible.

This is to enable them to find their way through the pharmaceuticals maze and counter their patients' demands for fashionable drugs.

Patients, on the other hand, are to be enabled to discuss their medication with their doctor with some sense.

Professor Remien criticised the fact that only few doctors pursue what he called a "rational prescribing practice."

One of the co-authors, Peter Schirovsky, a former executive in the pharmaceuticals industry, also criticised doctors for being irrational in their prescribing practices.

He said that their inadequate training permitted the industry to manipulate them.

Schirovsky (who originally hid behind the pseudonym Roland Werner) and his three co-authors had already published a critical drug report in 1981. That book was called *Gesunde Geschäft* (Healthy Deals).

dpa

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 20 September 1983)

Most drugs are 'ineffective, unnecessary'

Only a few of the drugs sold by German chemists are effective and necessary, a team of Austrian authors says.

Many of the drugs that provide the German pharmaceuticals industry with non-utility sales worth DM15bn have either no effect or not the one claimed by the industry. Others lead to addiction or do more harm than good.

In this conclusion the four authors arrive at in their book *Bittere Pillen* (Bitter Pills), published by Kiepenheuer & Witsch, Cologne.

Together with pharmacologists, pharmacists and scientists, the authors tested 2,300 out of 70,000 drugs marketed in Germany. They account for 80 per cent of the industry's sales.

The authors advise against the use of 44.1 per cent of the drugs reviewed. In some cases they ban whole groups of drugs. Only one of the 27 anti-flu drugs is described as useful. The others should not be used, the authors say.

The same goes for the widely sold non-prescription painkillers.

One of the authors' scientific advisers, Munich pharmacologist Professor Jörg Remien, has told a press conference that the main objective of the 864-page book was to provide better information for doctors.

dpa

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 20 September 1983)

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A row has erupted over the publication of school textbooks produced specially to help Turkish children in Germany learn their own language.

A right-wing Turkish newspaper, *Turkman*, says the books are poisoning children with ideas of communists and "other militants".

Complaints have been received from the Turkish education ministry and a consulate teacher burnt some copies.

The textbooks were specially written as part of a scheme offering Turkish as a foreign language option to Turkish children in Berlin.

An EEC directive has said that children of foreign workers from member and associate member nations of the EEC are legally entitled to lessons in their mother tongue.

But a problem in Berlin was textbooks. They could not be imported from Turkey, because they had to be suitable for children who could not read or write Turkish.

Two Turkish authors were commissioned. The guidelines called for the history and culture of the home country to receive as much emphasis as the environment, family education and housing of foreign families in Germany.

It was a difficult task. The authors had to deal carefully with such themes as the undemocratic rule in Turkey and growing hostility in Germany towards foreigners.

The book-burning episode was because the books have quotes from people not in current political favour in Turkey including former Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

Turkman accused Berlin's education senator, Hanna-Renate Laurien (CDU), of condoning left-wing ideologies being taught to Turkish children.

They were faced with several prob-

lems. The selection of the texts was even more difficult than purely educational structuring. The intention was to devise language rather than current affairs books, Weil stressed.

The undemocratic conditions in Turkey have been an option for Turkish children since 1978 in some Berlin schools. Since 1979 mother tongue instruction has been a mandatory option in all German schools.

In 1981 the EEC said all children of foreign workers from an EEC member state or associate state had the right to lessons in their mother tongue.

They appear to have adequately highlighted conditions in Turkey.

Many people think that the entire scheme will prove too much for Turkish children with poor Turkish and bad German. There are 28,000 Turkish schoolchildren in Berlin.

The teachers in the Berlin scheme are qualified in Turkey. They were handed a provisional curriculum, but the lack of suitable textbooks forced them to improvise.

German publishers were not interested in providing textbooks because of the commercial risks.

The Berlin Senate asked the *Bund-Länder-Kommission* in Bonn (a mixed federal and state committee) to produce textbooks.

Seminar director Gerhard Weil commissioned two Turkish authors, Inci Özhan, who has lived in Germany for 17 years, and the writer Adnan Binyazar, who had worked for the Turkish Education Ministry.

The new textbooks deal with everyday experiences and the typical conflicts facing foreign families in their host countries.

The depiction of local conditions is restricted to a few pages because the textbooks are to be used in other West German states and West European countries.

A textbook publisher will be given a

Economic disaster' for Germany if foreigners all went home

When times get tough and unemployment rises, foreigners tend to get the blame. People on the extreme right of the political spectrum are especially quick to get at foreigners.

The belief is that deporting foreigners would solve unemployment. But expert opinion doesn't agree. It paints a very different picture of what would happen if the country were suddenly denuded of its foreign population.

Only a few industries have a high proportion of foreigners — principally catering, engineering and municipal service industries. And there are considerable regional differences.

One man at least believes that an exodus of foreigners would mean economic disaster. He is Karl Ranz, head of the Düsseldorf social affairs department.

He says that if 75 per cent of the foreigners were to leave the city within two to three years, major companies like Mannesmann, where the proportion of foreign workers is up to 43 per cent at times, would have to cut their output. This would lead to layoffs among the office staff.

And the way the Düsseldorf jobless are structured there would be no chance of employing Germans in place of the Turks.

The city would lose an annual DM50m in buying power. Withholding tax losses would amount to DM10.6m.

The figures are based on the assumption that the 36,500 foreign workers gross an average monthly pay of DM2,500.

The social security pensions fund

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THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

MIGRANTS

No Turkish delight in new language textbooks

publication licence as a response from further afield to the 128-page illustrated book being revised.

"This will be the first book in several languages."

The response of the home language is to the *Welt* in the *Hunsrück*, Hesse and the Westphalia (Bavaria) has been encouraging.

But the teachers' union has been encouraging the home language in the *Welt*.

Some principals and teachers have been swept through the community. The pupils are divided into two categories: the good ones who have been performing at regular intervals and the poor ones who will be performing at the 350th anniversary of the first performance. As the exception.

They frequently perform in the makings. It involves an old

difficulties and keep the pupils from under 35 and unmarried.

Welt: "I hope that the

Coastal Court judges will shortly rule on whether Turkish-instruction

is entitled to take part in the present Berlin curriculum up to the tenth grade.

Seemöller went to court before the 1980 season, lodging a constitutional

appeal against the disfranchisement of women.

The court that is dealing with his latest appeal was unable to arrive at a judgment on votes for women because, it said, there was no legal provision on

which it could base a judgment.

If there had been, the court said, an appeal could well have been allowed.

Oberammergau parish council thereupon decided that women were to be given the vote, subject to the restrictions on taking part in the play.

The Passion play committee, it further ruled, was to have both the parish priest and his Protestant counterpart as co-opted members.

The council's decision was pinned to the parish notice board but it could still not be described as a binding legal requirement.

"It's the same old trick," Seemöller told the court, in which as it happens women are no more represented than they are in Oberammergau parish council.

"Why," he asked the blue-robed justifiers beneath the Bavarian coat of arms, "when a male pensioner can earn an extra DM8,000 to DM10,000 as an extra in the Passion play season, can a female pensioner not do so?"

"Why is it that older women and married women can only work as cloakroom and toilet attendants? Why is the cash the play earns not evenly distributed?" The chief justice was similarly at a

loss to account for this state of affairs. Was it, he wondered, simply that the people of Oberammergau felt they were a law unto themselves?

Had they given no thought whatever to the idea of equal rights for women in the Passion play? Or were they still of the opinion that a woman's place was in the home?

Maybe, he suggested, a foundation or the villagers as a whole could be entrusted with responsibility for the Passion play. Perhaps it was time for the parish council to stand down.

Helmut Fischer, the lawyer representing the parish council and the 1970 Jesus, said the idea of entrusting someone else with responsibility had been set aside once and for all in 1929.

All attempts by Oberammergau women to gain election to the parish council had likewise failed. He felt this was a great pity, given that women were an "enlivening element and at times also a brake."

As for the restrictions on taking part that applied to women only, Fischer II (another Oberammergau of the same name sides with the reformers) argued that they were part of the tradition.

It was, he said, a tradition that had

never been called into question by the women themselves. It had also proved necessary.

"In the Passion," he said, "men play the crucial role, whereas the women's role is only a subordinate one."

So he now hopes to get equal rights for all villagers vindicated in Munich, though he had originally wanted to take his case straight to the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe.

But, he added, as a Bavarian citizen he preferred to rely on a Bavarian court. This was a sentiment that met with the court's wholehearted approval.

To begin with, Xaver Seemöller only wanted to end discrimination of women in elections to the Passion play committee, but a reference to the further-reaching consequences was promptly taken up by the court.

The nine judges now propose to rule on whether the exclusion of many village women from the cast can be reconciled with constitutional guarantees of equal rights.

It is doubtful whether the court's ruling will come in time to have the slightest effect on the 1984 season. Seats for all performances have already sold out.

Karl Stankiewitz
(*Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz*, 8 October 1983)

1105-23 October 1983

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

PASSION PLAY

Carpenter takes Nazareth crucifixion case to court

because no fees were to be paid for rehearsals.

As it happened, 7,000 people turned up to take part for nothing except, perhaps, the greater glory of God.

For the regular Passion play as performed every 10 years there has, however, been an unwritten rule that women may only take part if they are unmarried and under 35 when the season starts.

In bygone days the rule was even stricter. Women had to be virgins.

Women of whatever age were not allowed to vote in the elections to the play committee, a body that is responsible for casting and for all manner of details before and after the play season.

Seemöller went to court before the 1980 season, lodging a constitutional appeal against the disfranchisement of women.

Some participants in the play have already criticized the two hours of discussion at their

call for the panel of nine judges

to be spinster of unblemished

age and under 35.

The court that is dealing with his latest appeal was unable to arrive at a judgment on votes for women because, it said, there was no legal provision on

which it could base a judgment.

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All attempts by Oberammergau women to gain election to the parish council had likewise failed. He felt this was a great pity, given that women were as pious, God-fearing and honest as they might be.

In 1980 he had declined to take part. Next year he plans to join in as an extra and do his bit for the village like everyone else.

But the vow the village made 350 years ago after an epidemic of plague, he told the court, was being manipulated for reasons of power politics.

So he now hopes to get equal rights for all villagers vindicated in Munich, though he had originally wanted to take his case straight to the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe.

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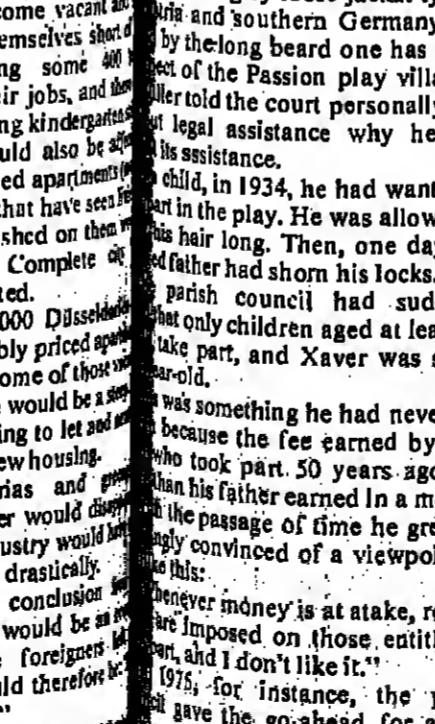
The Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Jesus in the 1980 Passion play.

(Photos: dpa)



Bettina Schröder

1105-23 October 1983



The 1980 production.

(Photo: Archiv)